

Appl. No. : 10/643,380
Filed : August 19, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A device for the simultaneous placing of ear marks and taking of a tissue sample, comprising:

a first device (1) for accommodating a hole plate (1a),

a second device (2) arranged essentially in the vicinity of the first device, for accommodating a sample container (2a),

a third device (3) located essentially opposite the first device, for accommodating a spur plate, and

a fourth (4) device, located essentially opposite the second device, for accommodating sample obtaining means,

means for bringing together the devices (11), essentially located opposite one another,

whereby, when the first and the third devices are brought together, and simultaneously the second and, ~~and the third or the fourth devices respectively~~ are brought together, the ear mark is secured to the animal, and simultaneously the sample obtaining means, carrying the tissue with them, are passed through the ear of the animal into the sample container, and ~~else~~ the container is closed with a sealing effect.

2. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the first and the second device are depressions matched to accommodate the hole plate and the sample container respectively.

3. **(Original)** The device of Claim 1, wherein the third and fourth devices are pins matched to accommodate the spur plate or the sample obtaining means respectively.

4. **(Currently amended)** The device ~~according~~ of Claim 1, wherein the devices for accommodating the ear mark parts and the devices for accommodating the sample container and the sample obtaining means are arranged behind one another or next to one another in relation to the bringing together of the devices.

5. **(Original)** A method of marking of an animal, comprising using the device of Claim 1 and further comprising taking of a biological sample from said animal using the device of Claim 1.

6. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, whereby more than one sample is taken from the animal.

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7. **(Original)** The method of Claim 6, wherein at least one sample container is taken from the animal and at least one of the remaining sample containers remains on the animal.

8. **(Original)** The method of Claim 5, wherein said sample container is a Typi-Fix® ear mark.